



COLORADO STATE BOARD OF PAROLE

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Dr. Anthony P. Young
Chair

Dr. Patricia A. Waak
Vice-Chair

Board Members
Michael E. Anderson
Denise K. Balazic
Rebecca L. Oakes
John M. O'Dell
Alfredo E. Pena

Joint Judiciary Committee
Dr. Young Speaking Points
January 18, 2013, 11:00-11:30

Senate Chair: Lucia Guzman

Senate Vice-Chair: Jessie Ulibarri

Senate Members: Irene Aguilar, Steve King, and Kevin Lundberg

House Chair: Daniel Kagan

House Vice-Chair: Pete Lee

**House Members: John Buckner, Polly Lawrence, Brittany Pettersen,
Lois Court, Mike McLachlan, Joe Salazar, Bob Gardner, Carole
Murray, and Jared Wright**

Introduction:

- Good Morning – I am Dr. Anthony Young, Chairman of the Colorado State Board of Parole
- With me today is Dr. Patricia Waak, Vice-Chair
- Appreciate the opportunity to share with you today some of the Boards achievements over the past year
- Strategic Plan

Overview of Parole Board:

- Seven **members** appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the senate
- Members represent multidisciplinary areas of expertise
 - 2 with experience in law enforcement
 - 1 with experience in offender supervision
 - 4 with expertise in other relevant fields
- Board **operates independently** but in collaboration and cooperation
 - DOC
 - DCJ

- Victims
- Advocacy Groups
- Participate in the CCJJ

Hearings and Duties:

- Charged with responsibility of evaluating the risk level and potential for success for discretionary parole for eligible DOC inmates
- Schedule and hold application hearings
 - Full Board reviews
- Set conditions of parole
- Recession hearings
- Revocation hearings
- Warrants

Materials and Testimony from the JBC Hearing:

- **Highlights and Achievements Fiscal Year 2012**
 - **Overall Goal of the Parole Board**
 - To enhance effectiveness and efficiency through the use of Evidence-Based Practices, technology, and strategic collaborations to improve release and revocation decision-making while protecting public safety, reducing victimization and enhancing the success of offender re-entry.
 - In FY 2012 we conducted 29,911 hearings, an average of 2,492 a month
 - **Parole Board Efficiency Enhancements**
 - Comprehensive review of Parole Board functions was initiated
 - Identified workload inefficiencies, assess operational functioning, exam level of efficiency, and to assess areas for improvement through technology and streamlining of functions.
 - Collaborative efforts of the Governor's Office of Information and Technology, and key staff within the Department of Corrections, were invaluable in the development and implementation of several efficiency enhancements of the Parole Board.
 - **Maximization of Parole Board Operations through Technology**
 - **Video and Telephone Conferencing** is now utilized for Parole hearings in remote DOC and private correctional settings in order to reduce travel costs.

- Video conferencing capabilities have been enhanced within the Canon Correctional Complex and Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility to provide greater access and connectivity.
- **Electronic Parole Board Applications** were implemented September 19, 2011.
 - Enabled real-time transmission of Parole Board decisions
 - Eliminated paper Parole Actions
- **SB11-241 - An electronic process** has been fully implemented to review presumptive parole for nonviolent offenders with ICE detainees
- **HB 11-1064** - and for parole-eligible offenders serving a sentence for a drug use or drug possession crime that was committed prior to August 11, 2010
- **The Parole Guidelines Release Guidelines Instrument (PBRGI)** has been automated and fully implemented
 - Administrative release guideline instrument
 - Provides a framework for the Parole Board to evaluate and weigh the statutorily mandated factors, victim, and community impact
- Implementation of the **Parole Board Electronic Calendar**
 - A process for the consistent scheduling of all Parole Board hearings;
 - Reduced cost and resources of re-work time to accommodate changes
 - Streamlined communication among users
 - Increased access and transparency of published calendars
 - Increased optimization of Parole Board Members' work time.
- **Electronic Arrest Warrants**
 - Documents rapidly generated, submitted, reviewed, and distributed within DOC and to law enforcement agencies.
 - Eliminated paper waste and time spent
- **Scanning Parole Board records**
- **Electronic Parole Board Revocation process** (similar to our Electronic Parole Application process) is in the development stage.
 - Enable real-time transmission of Parole Board revocation decisions to DOC Time/Release operations, Community Parole Officers, and County Jails.

- **File Reviews** for Code Of Penal Discipline Class I violations and offenders within 6 months to MRD will ultimately result in saving time of 26% for parole application hearings.
- **Victim Impact Statements**

Strategic Planning:

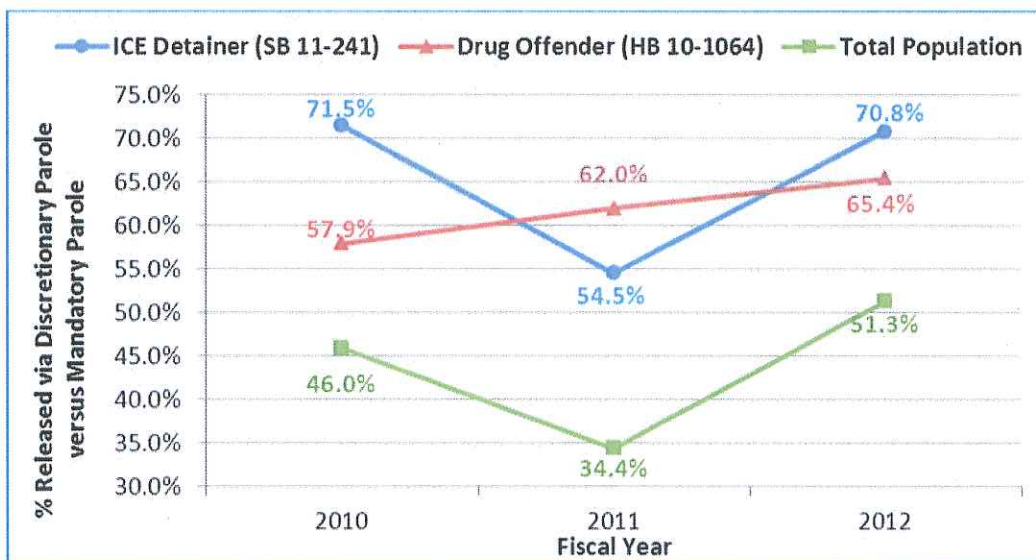
- Applied for and received approval for free technical assistance from the National Institute of Corrections for strategic planning.
 - Technical assistance began March 2012 and concluded August 31, 2012.
- Parole Board goals and objectives for FY 2013 have been developed as well as processes to further improve transparency, increase stakeholder accessibility and accountability of the Parole Board, and to assist in the development of our implementing Stakeholder Outreach Educational Project.
- **Training of Parole Board and Hearing Officers**
 - An aggressive, innovative training program was initiated July 1, 2011, in accordance with SB11-241
 - To date, Parole Board members have received over 60 hours of training to enhance proficiency.
- **Performance Measures**
 - **Total Number of Hearings**
 - **In FY 11- 31,244**
 - 20,891 application
 - 10,353 revocation
 - 2,702 revoked
 - 1,194 CRCF
 - 625 Self Revoked
 - **In FY 12 – 29,211**
 - 21,763 application
 - 8,148 revocation – a drop of 2,205 from the previous year
 - 2,329 revoked – 373 less than FY11
 - 1,110 CRCF
 - 494 self revoked – 131 less than FY11 – a 21% drop
 - Discretionary releases are at a rate more similar to the 2010 rate.
 - **In FY11 – 21% (2,096)**
 - **34% in FY12 – (3,607)**
 - **35% in FY13 up to Dec. 31, 2012 (1,869)**

- Mandatory release rate declining
 - **FY 11- 39% (3,994)**
 - **32% in FY12 (3,423)**
 - **29% in FY13 to date (1,566)**
- **Parolees released on discretionary parole are more successful**
 - These are preliminary numbers.
 - Final numbers at the end of the month
 - With the 2009 release cohort 43.7% (1,328) revoked versus 56.6% (2,052) of mandatory parolees
 - Of those on discretionary parole that are revoked 11.25% (341) are for technical violations
 - 13.5% (491) of mandatory parolees are revoked for technical violations
 - 32.5% (987) on discretionary parole are convicted of a new crime
 - 43.1% (1,561) on mandatory parole
- Parole Board Hearing Decisions
 -
- **Early parole discharges**
 - In FY12 80% (226) of early parole discharges were from discretionary parole
 - 20% (57) mandatory
- **Focus for FY13-14**
 - **The Stakeholder Education and Outreach Project**
 - This initiative is funded by NIC
 - clear, concise, consistent, and accurate information regarding the purpose and structure of the Parole Board
 - designed to provide focused opportunities for members of the public, legislature, law enforcement, media, the judiciary, criminal justice professionals, victims, support systems of offenders
 - Continue to identify ways to **enhance productivity and efficiencies with the use of technology**

Other Performance Indicators:

- SB11-241 created a presumption of parole for special needs offenders and ICE detainees
 - Special needs offenders
 - DOC referred 13 offenders who met the criteria in FY12 compared to 7 in FY11

- Of the 13 in FY12 – 9 were granted parole compared to 5 in FY11
- Reduced the time from referral to hearing date
 - In FY11 it took an average of 5.1 months
 - In FY12 it was an average of 2.4 months
- ICE detainees
 - Transfer to ICE custody upon release from DOC
 - Discretionary parole rates
 - In FY11 – 54.4% (54)
 - In FY12 – 70.8% (138)
- HB10-1350 and HB11-1064 both established a presumption of parole for drug offenses. HB11-1064 filled a gap left by HB10-1350
 - Discretionary parole rates
 - In FY11-62% (114)
 - In FY12 – 65.4% (154)
- While the increases in drug offenders and ICE detainee discretionary matches that of the increase in overall discretionary parole releases both groups receive a greater presumption of parole than does the average offender



Conclusion:

- Appreciates and looks forward to continuing the collaborative and cooperative relationship with
 - The General Assembly
 - The Department Of Corrections,
 - The Division of Criminal Justice
- Appreciate the opportunity today
- Thank you